

conditions whereby the peptide of the sensor binds the first receptor to form a first receptor-sensor complex and the complex is immobilized on a solid-phase;

measuring an assay binding of the sensor to the first receptor by selectively detecting immobilized first receptor-sensor complexes; and

comparing the assay binding with a corresponding control binding, wherein the control binding provides an indication of sensor binding to the first receptor in the absence of the agent, and wherein a greater assay binding than control binding indicates that the agent is a ligand of the receptor.

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~~63.~~ A method according to claim ~~62~~¹, wherein the measuring step comprises detecting the first receptor of immobilized first receptor-sensor complexes.

~~3~~
~~64.~~ A method according to claim ~~62~~¹, wherein the measuring step, the first receptor is immobilized through the sensor.

~~4~~
~~65.~~ A method according to claim ~~62~~¹, wherein the measuring step, the first receptor is immobilized through the sensor and the sensor is immobilized through the label.

~~5~~
~~66.~~ A method according to claim ~~62~~¹, wherein the measuring step, the first receptor is immobilized through the sensor, and the sensor is immobilized through the label by a second, label-specific receptor.

~~6~~
~~67.~~ A method according to claim ~~62~~¹, wherein the measuring step, the first receptor is immobilized through the sensor, and the sensor is immobilized through the label by a second, label-specific receptor and wherein the measuring step comprises detecting the immobilized first receptor.

~~7~~
~~68.~~ A method according to claim ~~62~~¹, wherein the measuring step, the first receptor is immobilized through the sensor, and the sensor is immobilized through the label by a second, label-specific receptor and wherein the measuring step comprises detecting the immobilized first receptor with a third, first receptor-specific receptor.

8¹/₆₉. A method according to claim ~~62~~¹/₁, wherein the sensor comprises an epitope label, wherein the measuring step, the first receptor is immobilized through the sensor and the sensor is immobilized through the label by a second, label-specific receptor comprising an immobilized epitope label-specific antibody moiety.

9¹/₇₀. A method according to claim ~~62~~¹/₁, wherein the sensor comprises a biotin label and wherein the measuring step, the first receptor is immobilized through the sensor and the sensor is immobilized through the label by a second, label-specific receptor comprising an immobilized avidin moiety.

10¹/₇₁. A method according to claim ~~62~~¹/₁, wherein the measuring step, the sensor is immobilized through the first receptor.

11¹/₇₂. A method according to claim ~~62~~¹/₁, wherein the measuring step, the sensor is immobilized through the first receptor and the first receptor is immobilized through a second, first-receptor specific receptor.

12¹/₇₃. A method according to claim ~~62~~¹/₁, wherein the measuring step, the sensor is immobilized through the first receptor and the first receptor is immobilized through a second, first-receptor specific receptor and wherein the measuring step comprises detecting the immobilized sensor.

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13¹/₇₄. A method according to claim ~~62~~¹/₁, wherein the measuring step, the sensor is immobilized through the first receptor and the first receptor is immobilized through a second, first-receptor specific receptor and wherein the measuring step comprises detecting the immobilized sensor with a third, label-specific receptor.

14¹/₇₅. A method according to claim ~~62~~¹/₁, wherein the measuring step, the sensor is immobilized through the first receptor and the first receptor is immobilized through a second, first-receptor specific receptor comprising a first receptor-specific antibody.

76. A method according to claim 62, wherein the first receptor comprises the ligand binding domain of PPAR γ , Cyp7PBP(LRH-1), NURR1, RZR β , ROR α , NOR-1, Rev-ErbA β , Tlx, NGFI-B β , HZF-2 α , COUP-TF α , β , γ , Nur77, LXR α , COR, Rev-ErbA α , HNF4 α , TOR, MB67 α , SHP, FXR, SF-1, LXR β , GCNF, TR2-11 α , β , TR4, ERR α , β and DAX-1

¹⁵
~~77~~_A A method according to claim ~~62~~_A, wherein the peptide comprises a sequence selected from the group consisting of: KLVQLLTTT (SEQ ID NO:1), ILHRLLQE (SEQ ID NO:2), LLRYLLDK (SEQ ID NO:3), LLRYLLD (SEQ ID NO:4), LRYLLD (SEQ ID NO:5), LLRYLL (SEQ ID NO:6), LRYLL (SEQ ID NO:7), LLRYLLDKD (SEQ ID NO:8), QLLRYLLDKD (SEQ ID NO:9), HQLRYLLDKD (SEQ ID NO:10), PQAQKSLQQLLT (SEQ ID NO:11), LLQQLLTE (SEQ ID NO:12), VTLLQLLLG (SEQ ID NO:13), ILRKLLQE (SEQ ID NO:14), ILKRLLE (SEQ ID NO:15), ILRRLLE (SEQ ID NO:16) and ILKKLLQE (SEQ ID NO:17).

¹⁶
~~78~~_A A method according to claim ~~62~~_A, wherein the peptide consists of a sequence selected from the group consisting of: KLVQLLTTT (SEQ ID NO:1), ILHRLLQE (SEQ ID NO:2), LLRYLLDK (SEQ ID NO:3), LLRYLLD (SEQ ID NO:4), LRYLLD (SEQ ID NO:5), LLRYLL (SEQ ID NO:6), LRYLL (SEQ ID NO:7), LLRYLLDKD (SEQ ID NO:8), QLLRYLLDKD (SEQ ID NO:9), HQLRYLLDKD (SEQ ID NO:10), PQAQKSLQQLLT (SEQ ID NO:11), LLQQLLTE (SEQ ID NO:12), VTLLQLLLG (SEQ ID NO:13), ILRKLLQE (SEQ ID NO:14), ILKRLLE (SEQ ID NO:15), ILRRLLE (SEQ ID NO:16) and ILKKLLQE (SEQ ID NO:17).

¹⁷
~~79~~_A A method according to claim ~~62~~_A, wherein the peptide is 12 or fewer residues in length.

¹⁸
~~80~~_A A method according to claim ~~62~~_A, wherein the label is coupled to the N-terminus of the peptide.

¹⁹
~~81~~_A A method according to claim ~~62~~_A, wherein the label provides for indirect detection of the sensor.

²⁰
~~82~~_A A method according to claim ~~62~~_A, wherein the label provides for indirect detection of the sensor,

wherein the label is an epitope tag.

~~21~~
~~82~~ A method according to claim ~~62~~¹, wherein the label provides for direct detection of the sensor.

~~22~~
~~83~~ A method according to claim ~~62~~¹, wherein the label provides for direct detection of the sensor,
wherein the label is a luminescent label.

~~23~~
~~85~~ A method according to claim ~~62~~¹, wherein the label provides for direct detection of the sensor,
wherein the label is a luminescent label, wherein the luminescent label is a fluorescent label.

~~24~~
~~86~~ A method according to claim ~~62~~¹, wherein the label provides for direct detection of the sensor,
wherein the label is a luminescent label, wherein the luminescent label is a fluorescent label, wherein the
fluorescent label is coupled to the N-terminus of the peptide.

~~25~~
~~87~~ A method according to claim ~~67~~⁶, wherein the label is coupled to the N-terminus of the peptide.

~~26~~
~~88~~ A method according to claim ~~68~~⁷, wherein the label is coupled to the N-terminus of the peptide.

~~27~~
~~89~~ A method according to claim ~~69~~⁸, wherein the label is coupled to the N-terminus of the peptide.

~~28~~
~~90~~ A method according to claim ~~74~~¹³, wherein the label is coupled to the N-terminus of the peptide.

~~29~~
~~91~~ A method according to claim ~~75~~¹⁴, wherein the label is coupled to the N-terminus of the peptide.

REMARKS

Amendments

Because of the aggregate delays the Office has subject this and parent application 08/975,614,
and the time-limited commercialization of the invention, we have restricted the claims to our exemplified